

Figure 1. Anomalies of surface temperature ($^{\circ}\text{C}$) (right) and precipitation (left) during El Niño years between 1981-2000 based on NCEP/NCAR reanalyses (top), regional simulation (middle) and observation (bottom) for January-February-March.

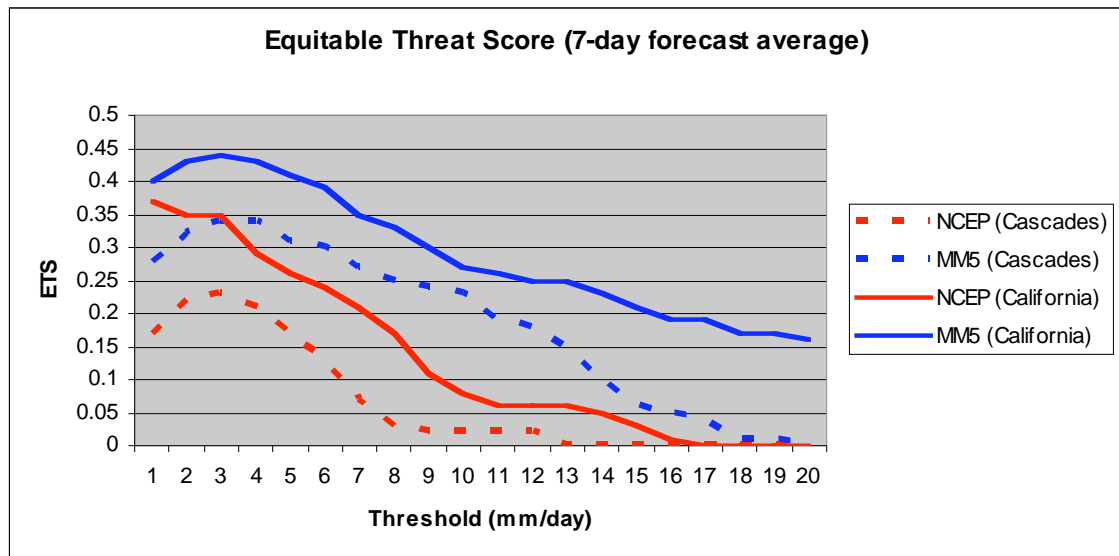
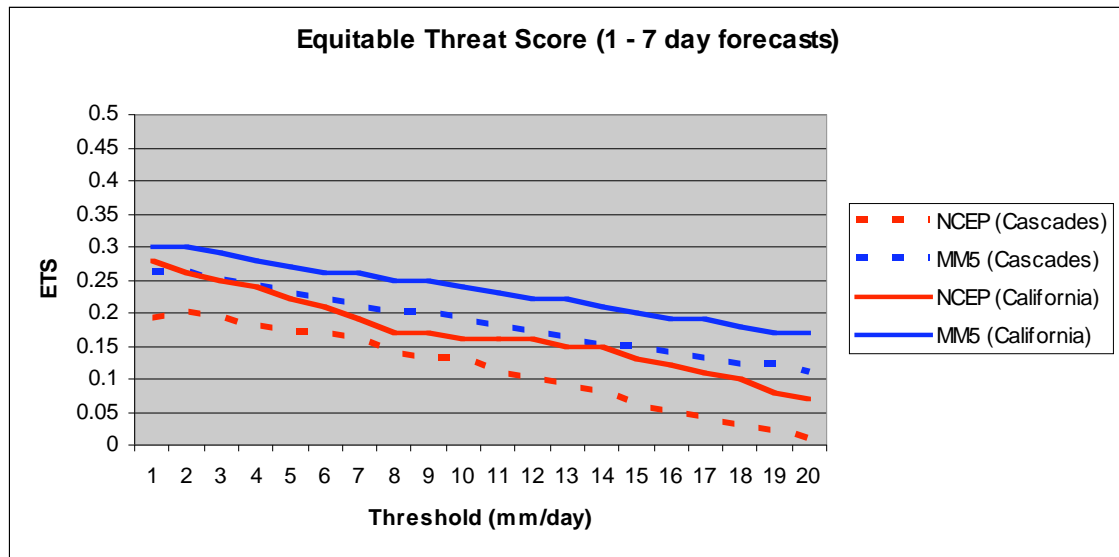


Figure 2. Equitable Threat Score (ETS) of 7-day forecasts for the NCEP global forecast (red) and MM5 regional forecast (blue) for the Cascades (upper) and California (lower) regions. Differences between the ETS are particularly large at the larger thresholds.